

Announcement of Presidential Scholars

May 24, 1993

The President joined Secretary of Education Richard Riley today in naming 141 high school seniors as 1993 Presidential scholars. The scholars, who are recognized for their achievements in academics or the arts, will visit Washington June 19–24 and will be honored at a White House ceremony where each will receive a Presidential scholar medallion.

“These young people represent the best in our country,” said the President. “Through hard work and community service they have earned this prestigious award. I look forward to meeting them next month at the White House.”

Final selections of the scholars were made by a 32-member Commission on Presidential Scholars chaired by New Jersey Governor Jim Florio. The Commission was appointed by President Clinton earlier this month.

The 141 winners include one young man and one young woman from each State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and from American families living abroad; 15 at-large scholars and 20 scholars in the arts. Academic scholars were selected on the basis of SAT and ACT scores, essays, school recommendations, and transcripts. Arts scholars were identified through an Arts Recognition and Talent Search program conducted by the National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts.

NOTE: A list of the scholars was made available by the Office of the Press Secretary.

Exchange With Reporters Prior to a Meeting With House Democratic Leaders

May 25, 1993

White House Travel Office

Q. Mr. President, we haven’t actually been able to get your view on the dealings the White House had with the FBI on all this travel stuff. Could you tell us what your view of all that is? Was it appropriate? Did you know about it?

The President. The only thing I know is that we made a decision to save the taxpayers and the press money. That’s all I know. We saved 25 percent on the first plane ride and saved the taxpayers a bunch of money. Any other questions, I’ll just refer you to Mr. McLarty——

Q. Was it your decision to go around the Attorney General and have the FBI issue a very rare statement?

The President. I had nothing to do with any decision, except to try to save the taxpayers and the press money. The press has been complaining for years that they were overcharged by the way the thing was done before. The first trip out we saved 25 percent for the press, and the taxpayers saved a lot of money. That’s all I know about it.

NOTE: The exchange began at 8:45 a.m. in the State Dining Room at the White House. A tape was not available for verification of the content of this exchange.

Remarks at the “Drive American Quality” Event

May 25, 1993

Thank you very much, Mr. Bieber, and to all of you who are here. I want to say a special word of thanks to Mr. Smith and Mr. Poling, Mr. Eaton and Secretary Brown and Secretary Reich. I see Mr. Bieber just gave Secretary Reich a nightshirt. I also want to thank all the Members of the Congress who are here and for their support of the auto industry in this country.

I grew up as a boy, starting from the time I was about 6 years old, in the back of a Buick dealership. I have been interested in the automobile business all my life. I watched with sadness when it was down, and I feel great elation now that I see it coming back. These cars are what is best about America: increasing productivity, increasing quality, and gaining market share back. The people who make them are the people who deserve our support, and this administration is determined to give it to them. Last year the auto